

ARLINGTON HALL STATION, BUILDING 420  
4000 Arlington Boulevard  
Arlington  
Arlington County  
Virginia

HABS NO. VA-1270-W

HABS  
VA  
7-ARL,  
12W-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Mid-Atlantic Region  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

HABS  
VA  
7-ARL,  
12W-

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY  
ARLINGTON HALL STATION, BUILDING 420

HABS No. VA-I270-W

- Location: Located in the southeast quadrant of Arlington Hall Station on the west side of South George Mason Drive approximately 100 feet southwest of Building 450. Arlington Hall Station is located at 4000 Arlington Boulevard, Arlington, Arlington County, Virginia.
- Significance: Constructed in 1944 as a storage facility, Building 420 was part of the second major building campaign initiated by the U.S. Army at Arlington Hall Station, the former site of Arlington Hall Junior College (1928-1942). It is associated with the nationally significant development of Arlington Hall Station as the headquarters of United States Army intelligence activities during World War II. (For overview of Arlington Hall Station, see HABS No. VA-I270).
- Description: Building 420 is a rectangular, single story, concrete block building measuring approximately 100 feet by 150 feet. The main block is gable roofed with stepped gable ends. Later additions to the north and south facades have built-up shed roofs. A 30-foot by 10-foot addition, used as an entry vestibule and a boiler house, is centrally located against the east facade. A 10-foot by 70-foot loading dock on the south side is incorporated beneath the shed roof. All window openings have been infilled, although remnants of beveled concrete sills remain. The interior arrangement consists of large inter-connected offices with only minor use of corridors.
- History: Building 420 was constructed in 1944 as a 9,000 square foot storage facility. In 1952 the warehouse was renovated for use as a repair shop and offices by the Army Security Agency. A 32-foot by 148-foot concrete block addition was added in 1956. The building underwent further alterations in 1963 and 1985. The building most recently functioned as highly secure office space.
- Sources: Annual Reports, Arlington Hall Station. On file at INSCOM Command Historian's Office, Fort Belvoir, Virginia.
- History Office, ODCSOPS. *Arlington Hall Station and Military Intelligence*. Arlington, VA: n.d. On file at INSCOM Command Historian's Office, Fort Belvoir, Virginia.
- History Office, ODCSOPS. *INSCOM and Its Heritage: An Organizational History of the Command and Its Units*. Special

Historical Series. Arlington, VA: n.d. On file at INSCOM Command Historian's Office, Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

*History of the Signal Security Agency.* Part of a classified 10 volume series. Declassified portions of the series on file at INSCOM Command Historian's Office, Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

Original drawings on file at Facility Engineer's Office, Arlington Hall Station, Arlington, Virginia.

Historian:

Glenn Ceponis/Diane Newbury  
John Milner Associates, Inc.  
1216 Arch Street, 5th Floor  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

September 1989



AIRINGTON MAIL STATION  
 4808 AIRINGTON BOULEVARD  
 AIRINGTON, ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA  
 PHONE NO. VA-1376

0 100 200  
 SCALE IN FEET